

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SCS-03 DHA-02 DPW-01

SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 /084 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:PDOUBLEDAY:JDP

APPROVED BY AF :TRBUCHANAN

SCA/SCS:STUCKER

D/HA/PW SIEVERTS

L/SCA:RDALTON

----- 037758

O R 022350Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, CG, AO

SUBJECT: AMERICAN MERCENARIES REPORTED CAPTURED IN ANGOLA

REF: GENEVA 1732 AND PREVIOUS (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, MPLA MINISTER OF JUSTICE
ANNOUNCED APRIL 1 THAT 13 MERCENARIES -- TWO AMERICANS,
TEN BRITONS, AND ONE ARGENTINIAN -- WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED
ON NORTHERN FRONT WOULD BE TRIED PUBLICLY. TRIAL IS TO
BE HELD BEFORE AN "INTERNATIONAL JURY" COMPOSED OF INDIA-
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VIDUALS FROM ABOUT 30 COUNTRIES. FINAL VERDICT WILL BE

HANDED DOWN BY A TRIBUNAL OF ANGOLANS AFTER CONSIDERATION
OF JURY'S RECOMMENDATION. TRIAL WILL BE HELD SOON,
ALTHOUGH DATE NOT YET SET. ACCUSED WILL BE PERMITTED
FOREIGN DEFENSE COUNSEL.

2. REPORTS IDENTIFIED AMERICANS AS DANIEL F. GEARHART
AND GEORGE ACKER AND THE ARGENTINIAN AS GUSTAVO MARCELO
GRILLO, WHO IS NO DOUBT THE SAME AS THE GUSTAVO GRILLO
WHO WAS EARLIER REPORTED TO BE ONE OF THE FOUR AMERICANS
MISSING IN ANGOLA AND WHO WAS BORN IN BUENOS AIRES.

3. NO MENTION MADE OF GEORGE BACON, THE FOURTH MISSING
AMERICAN.

4. REQUEST MISSION ASK ICRC TO HAVE ITS REPRESENTATIVE
IN LUANDA SEEK TO VISIT GEARHART AND ACKER TO ASCERTAIN
TREATMENT THEY ARE RECEIVING AND TO INQUIRE RE FATE OF
BACON; OR, IF VISIT CANNOT BE ARRANGED, TO REPORT
WHATEVER FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE. SINCE IT
APPEARS GRILLO WISHES TO CONCEAL HIS AMERICAN NATION-
ALITY FROM MPLA, WE FEEL IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR
ICRC REP NOT REPEAT NOT TO INQUIRE SPECIFICALLY RE
GRILLO, ALTHOUGH HE MAY NEVERTHELESS BE ABLE TO LEARN
HOW GROUP IN GENERAL INCLUDING GRILLO, IS BEING
TREATED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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